

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13  
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 ICA-11  
NSC-05 OES-09 OMB-01 L-03 /070 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/NE:REWOODS/JAN  
APPROVED BY EUR/NE:REWOODS  
-----017036 092037Z /73  
R 091945Z AUG 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, DA

SUBJECT: COUNTRY NARCOTICS PAPER

1. THE FOLLOWING IS AN UNCLASSIFIED STATEMENT ON THE  
NARCOTICS SITUATION IN DENMARK. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR  
REVIEWING TEXT, AND YOUR COMMENTS OR UPDATES, IF POSSIBLE BY  
C.O.B. AUGUST 11.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

1. ILLICIT DRUG PROBLEM

DURING 1976 DENMARK EMERGED AS A MAJOR TRANSIT COUNTRY  
FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN HEROIN ENTERING EUROPE, DESTINED PRI-  
MARILY FOR AMSTERDAM. COPENHAGEN IS ALSO A DISTRIBUTION  
POINT FOR SCANDINAVIA, AND THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT IT  
MAY SERVE AS A TRANSIT COUNTRY TO THE US. THERE WAS A  
DRAMATIC INCREASE IN 1976 IN THE USE OF HEROIN BY DANES,  
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SHIFTING FROM A MORPHINE BASE NO LONGER AVAILABLE SINCE  
EARLY IN THE YEAR. HASHISH COMING FROM THE MIDDLE EAST AND  
MORPHINE SULFATE TABLETS FROM PAKISTAN ARE WIDELY USED, THE  
LATTER LARGELY BY PAKISTANIS RESIDENT IN DENMARK. NAR-  
COTICS DEALING FROM SOME OF THE MANY CHINESE RESTAURANTS  
OPENED IN 1976 IS SUSPECTED BUT NOT YET PROVEN. A FALSE-  
BOTTOM SUITCASE ACCOMPANYING, PRECEDING OR FOLLOWING

COURIERS IS THE NORMAL METHOD OF CONCEALMENT. HEROIN FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION IS THOUGHT TO BE BROUGHT FROM AMSTERDAM, BODY-CARRIED VIA TRAIN OR CAR. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF ILLICIT DRUG PRODUCTION OR PROCESSING IN DENMARK.

## 2. DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS

THE DANISH GOVERNMENT HAS INCREASINGLY COME TO VIEW DRUG ABUSE AS A CRIMINAL RATHER THAN A SOCIO-MEDICAL PROBLEM, AND IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE RISING USE OF HEROIN. TRADITIONAL DANISH PERMISSIVENESS BEGAN TO CHANGE IN 1969 WITH THE APPEARANCE OF MORPHINE BASE AND OTHER HARD DRUGS, AN INCREASE IN DRUG USE IN SCHOOLS, AND CRITICISM BY OTHER SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES OF COPENHAGEN'S USE AS A TRANSIT POINT. LAW ENFORCEMENT IS, HOWEVER, DIRECTED MORE AT THE TRAFFICKER THAN THE USER. IN JUNE 1976 THE PARLIAMENT INCREASED THE PREVIOUS MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR NARCOTICS OFFENSES FROM SIX TO TWELVE YEARS, CANNABIS PRODUCTS ARE EXCEPTED; THE MAXIMUM FOR THESE REMAINS SIX YEARS.

IN APRIL 1975 THE DANISH GOVERNMENT RATIFIED THE AMENDING PROTOCOL AND THE CONVENTION ON PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES. DENMARK IS A SIGNATORY TO THE SINGLE CONVENTION. IT REGULARLY EXPELS ALIEN DRUG USERS AND TRAFFICKERS, AND ACTIVELY COOPERATES IN THE EXTRADITION AND EXPULSION OF SUCH USERS AND TRAFFICKERS. THE INCREASE IN THE MAXIMUM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PENALTY FOR NARCOTICS OFFENSES BRINGS DENMARK GENERALLY INTO LINE WITH OTHER SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES. THE LAW AND ITS ENFORCEMENT ARE BELIEVED TO BE SUFFICIENTLY STRICT TO HAVE A DETERRENT EFFECT ON POTENTIAL DRUG TRAFFICKERS. DENMARK CONTRIBUTES TO THE UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL AT A LEVEL WHICH COMPARES FAVORABLY WITH OTHER COUNTRIES; TO DATE, THE DANES HAVE CONTRIBUTED \$200,000 TO THE FUND AND STRONGLY SUPPORT INCREASED INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OVER THE MOVEMENT OF NARCOTICS. 1976 SAW A RISE IN SEIZURES OF ILLICIT DRUGS, RELATED ARRESTS AND CONVICTIONS. DURING THE ENTIRE YEAR OF 1975, 150 GRAMS OF HEROIN WERE SEIZED, COMPARED WITH 16,000 GRAMS IN 1976. IN 1976 950 GRAMS OF MORPHINE BASE WERE SEIZED. DANISH AUTHORITIES ESTIMATE THAT AT PRESENT THERE ARE 6-10,000 DRUG USERS IN DENMARK AND THAT THE TREND IN THIS RESPECT IS UP. AS USERS SHIFTED TO HEROIN, DRUG-RELATED DEATHS ROSE FROM 61 IN 1975 TO AN ESTIMATED 75 IN 1976.

IN DENMARK EACH POLICE JURISDICTION CARRIES OUT ITS OWN NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS. THE NATIONAL POLICE ORGANIZATION IS MAINLY ADMINISTRATIVE BUT DOES HAVE A "TRAVEL SECTION" WHICH ASSISTS IN NARCOTICS (AND OTHER) INVESTIGA-

TIONS OUTSIDE COPENHAGEN IF INVITED TO DO SO BY THE OTHER

JURISDICTIONS. CURRENTLY, SIX "TRAVEL SECTION" OFFICERS ARE ASSIGNED FULL-TIME TO NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS. AN INDEPENDENT DRUG UNIT HAS BEEN ORGANIZED WITHIN THE COPENHAGEN POLICE DEPARTMENT. SINCE 90 PERCENT OF DENMARK'S NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS OCCUR IN THE CAPITAL, THIS IS AN IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT AND COULD BE A PRECURSOR TO SOME FORM OF NATIONAL ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATION. THE COPENHAGEN DRUG UNIT COMPRISES 40 MEN. DANISH GOVERNMENT BUDGET FIGURES FOR NARCOTICS CONTROL EFFORTS ARE NOT AVAILABLE. OTHER RESOURCES INCLUDE STANDARD EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES, BUT THERE IS NO MONEY ALLOCATED FOR INFORMANTS.

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### 3. U.S. PROGRAMS

THERE ARE TWO FULL-TIME DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS AND ONE SECRETARY IN COPENHAGEN. SOME 55 DANES HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN TWO TWO-WEEK COURSES HELD IN COPENHAGEN; FIVE DANES HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN THE UNITED STATES, ONE DURING A TEN-WEEK COURSE AND FOUR DURING A SIX-WEEK COURSE. THERE IS NO GRANT EQUIPMENT, INCOME SUBSTITUTION, AND NO US ASSISTANCE IN TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION. US EXPERTS FROM THE DEA AND OTHER AGENCIES HAVE MET WITH DANISH OFFICIALS TO EXCHANGE NARCOTICS INTELLIGENCE AND TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENTS IN OTHER AREAS OF THE WORLD WHICH MIGHT AFFECT DENMARK. IN ADDITION, THE US WORKS CLOSELY WITH DENMARK IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED WITH NARCOTICS.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
APRIL 1, 1977 END TEXT. NEWSOM

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NARCOTICS, DOCUMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE201252  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** REWOODS/JAN  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780326-0522  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 28dbea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** COUNTRY NARCOTICS PAPER  
**TAGS:** SNAR, DA  
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**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/28dbea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014